

Amendments to the Specification

[0005] In addition to [[a]] user tables, that is, tables created by users to contain user data, a database contains a variety of system tables, whose function is to hold certain data that the database manager itself needs in order to manage the database. The system tables are collectively referred to as the database catalog.

[0021] Providing multiple environments is sure way to avoid lock contention. Each user entity is given a set of tables. This avoids DB2 load and lock contention problems entirely, but it can be an expensive alternative. It is not [[be]] unusual for an application environment with 400 "live" tables to grow or perhaps explode to more than 8000 test and development tables. Even with the availability of DB2 alter and migrate tools, this alternative becomes very time consuming for database administrators (humans). Application program modules each have to be bound properly, using the correct DB2 table creator. The same program module can be bound many times in such an environment. If there is a common module that is used in many functions and a change is made to it, the module will have to be bound numerous times and tested everywhere. Another risk of this solution is not properly making a table change to all environments. This could result in application program code being developed against an outdated table definition. In general, when multiple environments are provided, a lot of coordination is required for database changes. The more environments, the more coordination is required.